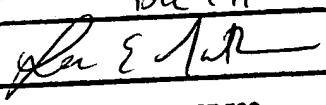




Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner note in the next office action that this preliminary amendment was received. Entry of this preliminary amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

By 
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231	
on	Dec 19, 2000
	
Laurie E. Gathman, Reg. 37,520	